

ABSTRACT

[0052] A Web server is provided having a multi-homed, modular framework. The modular framework allows extensions to the Web server to be easily compiled into the Web server, allowing the extensions to run natively as part of the server instead of incurring the overhead typical of CGI scripts, for example. The multi-homing capabilities of the Web server provide the appearance to Web users of multiple distinct and independent servers, allowing a small company or individual to create the same kind of Web presence enjoyed by larger companies. In effect, multiple virtual servers run on the same physical machine. The Web server as a whole is easily extensible to allow additional capabilities to be provided natively within the Web server itself. Furthermore, each virtual server is independently configurable in order to turn different capabilities on or off or to modify operation of the virtual server. The Web server is also provided with enhanced security features, built-in animation capability, and other features that afford maximum flexibility and versatility.